



PATENT
IOS9601CIPD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: D'Ausilio, et al.

Examiner: Swiatek, Robert P.

Serial No.: 10/779,869

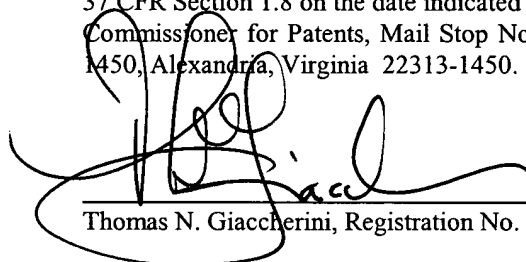
Group Art Unit: 3643

Title: **In Orbit Space Transportation
& Recovery System**

Filed: 17 February 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR Section 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to The Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.


Thomas N. Giaccherini, Registration No. 31,075

Date

14 July
2005.

FOURTH DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicants submit this Fourth Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 to disclose the results of an International Search Report that was issued by the United States Patent Office for a corresponding PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/US03/32748 on 30 June 2005. A copy of the US ISR is attached. A completed PTO Form-SB/08A&B accompanies this Fourth Disclosure Statement.

DISCLOSURE DOCUMENTS

Document 4A

Minovitch- U.S. Patent No. 4,754,601

discloses “a propulsion system for reusable space-based vehicles is presented wherein the propulsive working fluid is atmospheric gas.”

This document was previously disclosed to the Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4B

Scott- U.S. Patent No. 6,017,000

discloses “apparatus and methods for performing satellite proximity operations.”

Document 4C

Minovitch- U.S. Patent No. 3,825,211

discloses a “space vehicle [which] carries a vaporizable propellant....[E]nergy is transmitted to the vehicle while in space by a laser beam originating on the ground or some other body or satellite.”

This document was previously disclosed to the U.S. Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4D

DeYoung- U.S. Patent No. 5,260,639

discloses “a method of supplying power to a device such as a lunar rover located on a planetary surface.”

This document was previously disclosed to the U.S. Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4E

Basuthakur- U.S. Patent No. 5,779,195

discloses “a satellite assembly [that] is formed from any number of bus modules which have a substantially common shape and interior space volume.”

This document was previously disclosed to the U.S. Patent Office in a First Disclosure Statement filed for the Present Patent Application on 27 September 2004.

Document 4F

Oh- U.S. Patent No. 6,478,257

discloses “systems and methods that employ a phase change material to provide thermal control of electric propulsion devices.”

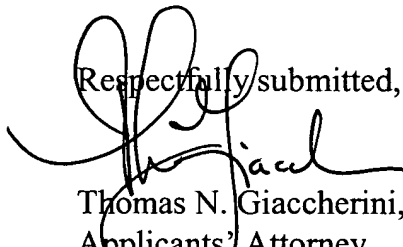
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CONCLUSION

The Applicants submit that none of the documents described above disclose the Invention as claimed in the present Patent Application, as revised by the First Preliminary Amendment which was submitted by Applicants. A substantive First Office Action has not yet issued for the Present Application. In accordance with 37 CFR Section 1.97(b)(3), the Applicants believe that no fee is required to submit this Fourth Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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14 July 2005.

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PTO/SB/08A (07-05)